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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/777,679	02/13/2004	Motokazu Kuroda	Q79442	5878

23373 7590 08/12/2004

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EXAMINER

ELKASSABGI, HEBA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2834

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/777,679

Applicant(s)

KURODA ET AL.

Examiner

Heba Elkassabgi

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 02/13/2004 is being considered by the examiner. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97.

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: Resin casing having slits, interposed between a bearing housing.

2. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claim I is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA (Applicants Prior Art) and further in view of Van Dorn et al. (US Patent 3679279).

APA discloses on page 1 of the specification in paragraph 2 a dynamoelectric machine having a pair of brackets with a bearing housing, in which a pair of bearings each having a cylindrical outer ring and a cylindrical inner ring with rolling members interposed between. The bearings are arranged in the brackets, in which the rotor has a shaft rotatably supported by the brackets through the bearings. The shaft is press fitted at opposite of the inner rings. Furthermore, the bearing housing at one axial end is positioned at an opening side of said associated bearing housing. However, APA does not further disclose a case that is interposed between the bearing housing and the outer ring and that the case is press-fitted with the bearings.

Van Dorn et al. discloses in figures 2,4-9, and 12 a bearing structure for a dynamoelectric machine having an case (blank 10) being of an elastometric material that is interposed between one of the bearing housings and an associated one the outer

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rings (33) of the bearings, with the rotation of said outer rings being restricted (see column 2 lines 4-24). Further more, the case (10) is formed in a cylindrical shape so as to cover the entire axial length of the associated outer ring (33). The case has slits (16 or 54) formed so as to extend in an axial direction from one axial end of the case to the other axial end. Additionally, the case is fitted as desired to the shaft or other mounting means (see column 3, lines 52-70). *In regards to claim 3, in figure 9 a ring- shaped packing (52, which is made of ductile material (see column 3 lines 47-49) the packing is located on an axial end of the case (10) and is provided along an edge portion of an opening of the bearing housing (alternate view figure 9, in order to provide an improved and alternative self-locking structure for mounting a bearing ring or the like.*

Since APA and Van Dorn et al. are from the same field of endeavor the purpose disclosed by one inventor would have been recognized in the pertinent art of the others.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include a case on an outer portion of the outer bearing ring as taught by Van Dorn et al. for the purpose disclosed

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2 and 4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 2 is allowed over the prior art which does not disclose at least one detent that protrudes in a radially outer direction in at least one circumferential location on an outer periphery of the resin case at the one axial end of the slit and has a width narrower than the circumferential width of the detent and extends from the neighborhood of the detent in an axial direction of the resin case, and that a detent receiving portion is formed in an edge portion of an opening of the bearing housing, with the detent of the resin case press-fitted into the bearing housing being in engagement with the detent receiving portion.

Claim 4 is allowed over the prior art, which does not disclose a case has an axial end integrally formed with the annular portion of the brush holder.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heba Elkassabgi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2023. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on (571) 272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Heba Y. Elkassabgi



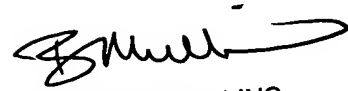
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Patent Examiner

AU 2834

Class 310- Electrical Generator/Motor Structure

Class 290- Prime Mover Dynamo Plants

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BURTON S. MULLINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER